

REMARKS

In the Office Action of January 22, 2004, the Examiner objected to the abstract for exceeding 150 words and for including reference numbers; and rejected claims 1-23, 25, and 27 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over EP Patent Application No. 0 784 283 A1 to Kameda et al.

Applicants have cancelled claims 2 and 5, and have amended claims 1, 3, 25, and 27 to further claim aspects of Applicants' invention. Accordingly, claims 1, 3, 4, and 6-28 are pending in this Application. No new matter has been added by this Reply.

Regarding the objection to the Abstract of the disclosure, Applicants have amended the Abstract to contain fewer than 150 words and to remove reference numbers. Applicants submit that the Abstract complies with MPEP § 608.01(b). Accordingly, Applicants request the objection to the Abstract be withdrawn.

Applicants respectfully traverse 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 1-23, 25, and 27 as being unpatentable over Kameda et al. No *prima facie* case of obviousness has been established with respect to claims 1-23, 25, and 27 for at least the reason that Kameda et al. does not disclose or suggest every claim element.

For example, independent claim 1 recites a combination of elements including, among other things, a display controlling device for selecting one of a plurality of kinds of condition marks in correspondence with a relationship between an execution timing of a medical care action and a measured present date and time; one kind if a time interval from the execution timing of the respective one of the medical care actions to the present date and

time is longer than a predetermined interval, another kind if the time interval is not longer than the predetermined interval, and further another kind if the present date and time has passed through the execution timing and the respective one of the medical care actions was not completed. Further, independent claim 1 recites the display controlling device calculating a present position in the table corresponding to a measured present date and time and generating second sub display data to display a present mark at the calculated present position.

In the office action, the examiner maintains that Kameda et al. discloses a display device for generating a flag indicating whether or not a medical care action has already been performed and for displaying in a display manner different from that of another portion of the display that has not yet been performed. See paper no. 8, page 4, part (ii). However, the display device of Kameda et al. does not disclose or even suggest generating one kind of flag if a time interval from the execution timing of the respective one of the medical care actions to the present date and time is longer than a predetermined interval, another kind of flag if the time interval is not longer than the predetermined interval, and further another kind of flag if the present date and time has passed through the execution timing and the respective one of the medical care actions was not completed, as recited in independent claim 1. In fact, Kameda et al. does not disclose or suggest generating flags according to a time interval relationship between execution timing of a medical care action and a measured present date and time at all. In contrast, and as pointed out by the Examiner, Kameda et al. only discloses a first flag if a medical care action was completed

and a second flag if the medical care action was not completed. See col. 23, line 57 to col. 24, line 5 of Kameda et al.

Further, Kameda et al. does not disclose or suggest calculating a present position in the table corresponding to the measured present date **and** time or generating second sub display data to display a present mark at the calculated present position, as recited in independent claim 1. In contrast, Kameda et al. only discloses displaying a present day differently from other graphically outputted portions of a table. See col. 22, lines 53-58 of Kameda et al.

As further example, independent claims 25 and 27 recite a combination of steps including, among other things, selecting one of a plurality of kinds of condition marks set in advance, in correspondence with a relationship between the execution timing of the respective one of the medical care actions and the measured present date and time; one kind if a time interval from the execution timing of the respective one of the medical care actions to the present date and time is longer than a predetermined interval, another kind if the time interval is not longer than the predetermined interval, and further another kind if the present date and time has passed through the execution timing and the respective one of the medical care actions has not been completed. Further, Independent claims 25 and 27 recite calculating a present position in the table corresponding to the measured present date and time and generating second sub display data to display a present mark at the calculated present position.

As recited above regarding independent claim 1, Kameda et al. does not disclose or suggest generating flags according to a time interval relationship between execution timing of a medical care action and a measured present date and time at all. In addition, Kameda et al. does not disclose or suggest calculating a present position in the table corresponding to the measured present date and time or generating second sub display data to display a present mark at the calculated present position.

Because no prima facie case of obviousness has been established with respect to independent claims 1, 25, and 27, the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 1, 25, and 27 is improper and should be withdrawn. In addition, claims 2, 4, and 6-23, which ultimately depend from independent claim 1, are allowable for at least the same reasons as independent claim 1. Further, each of these dependent claims also recites unique combinations that are neither taught nor suggested by the cited art.

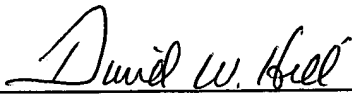
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

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By: 
David W. Hill
Reg. No. 28,220